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## **PRESS CLIPPINGS**

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### **ECONOMIC GROWTH**

**(Economic Reform, Private Sector Development, Trade and Agriculture)**

#### **USAID impressed by ‘Super Regions’ project**

**(Source: Journal Online <http://www.journal.com.ph/index.php?issue=2008-03-17&sec=4&aid=52974> – 3/17/08)**

THE United States Agency for International Development is optimistic on the current trend of the Super Regions Project of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

“Last year, my call was to show me; but now I can already say that you did show me,” this was the statement made by Jon Lindhborg, USAID Country Representative, in yesterday’s 3rd National Government Infrastructure Forum held in Davao City.

The forum was attended by the different members of the Pro-Performance System Steering Committee led by its chair Secretary Cerge Remonde.

PPS is the body organized to ensure efficient implementation and monitoring of the various infrastructure projects under the Super Regions Program.

In his speech, Lindhborg said he himself witnessed the problems encountered by the program in the past year and how the administration was able to resolve those problems and issues just so the projects will be pushed and remain on track.

“Philippines is moving forward and we see real progress happening in the country,” he said after listening from the infrastructure updates presented by Development Champion for Mindanao Super Region Secretary Jesus Dureza.

USAID is extending a total amount of P73 billion for the 27 projects in the Mindanao Region.

Mindanao is touted as the Agribusiness Region along with the other super regions

such as the North Luzon Agribusiness Quadrangle, the Luzon Urban Beltway, the Cyber Corridor, and the Central Philippines Tourism Development.

Remonde stressed that the various infrastructure projects included in the Super Region Program are scheduled to be completed on or before the end of the Arroyo administration.